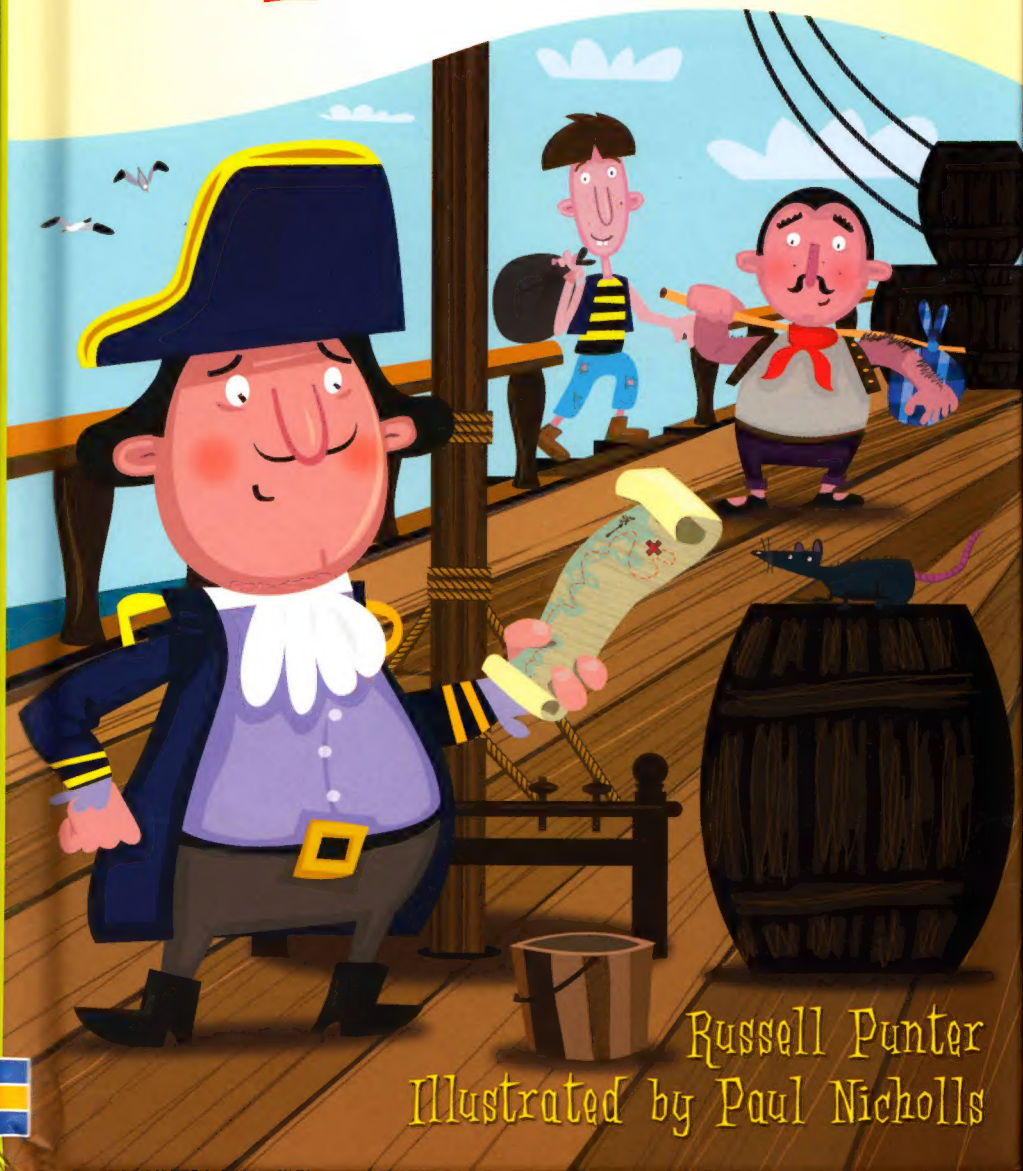


USBORNE VERY FIRST READING: BOOK 2



Captain Mac



Russell Punter
Illustrated by Paul Nicholls

Usborne Very First Reading has been developed in consultation with literacy specialists Alison Kelly and Anne Washtell of Roehampton University, London.

Each book contains:

- a **story** that children will love to read
- fun **puzzles** to reinforce new skills
- **guidance notes** on reading with your child.

Further help and support for parents and teachers can be found on the Very First Reading website,
www.usborne.com/veryfirstreading

Captain Mac

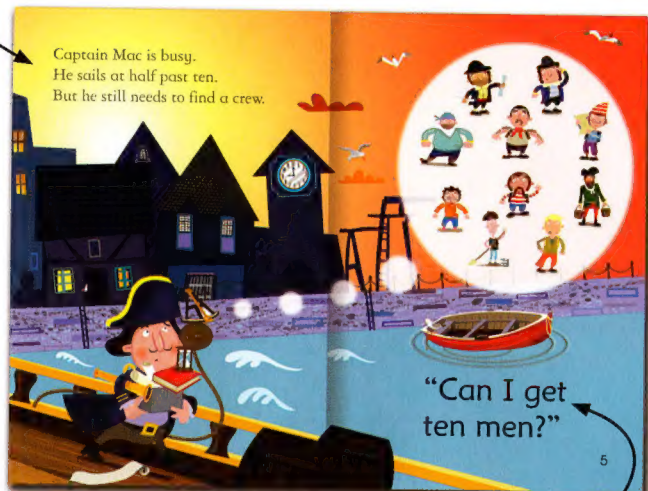


Written by Russell Punter
Illustrated by Paul Nicholls

How this book works

The story of Captain Mac has been written for you to read with your child. You take turns to read:

You read these words.



Your child reads these words.

You don't have to finish the story in one session. If your child is getting tired, put a marker in the page and come back to it later.

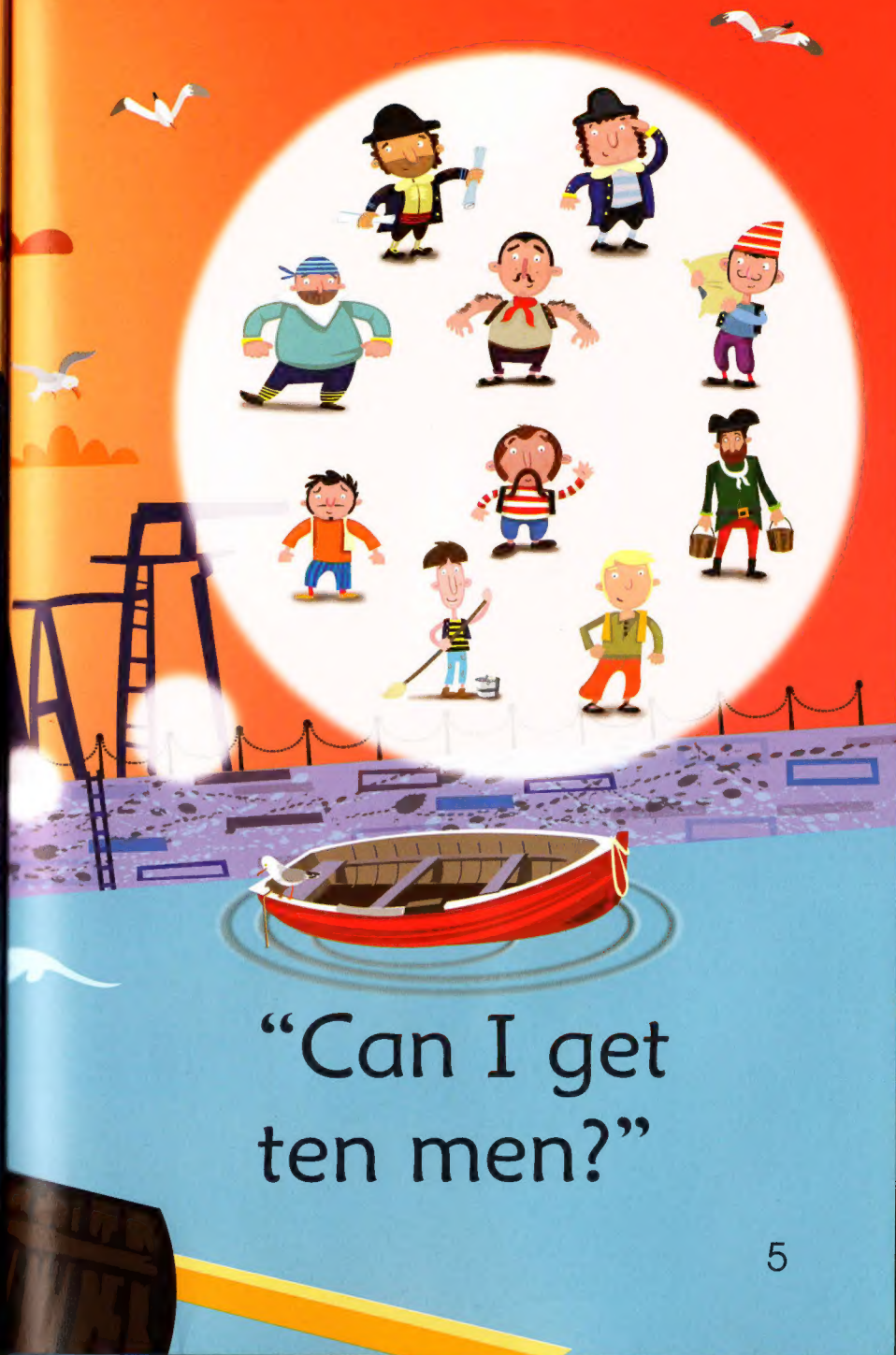
You can find out more about helping your child with this book, and with reading in general, on pages 30-31.

Captain Mac



Turn the page to start the story.

Captain Mac is busy.
He sails at half past ten.
But he still needs to find a crew.



“Can I get
ten men?”

"I can be the cook," says Tom.
"Look out, or you'll get wet.
I can catch our supper."

I can get it in a net.

“Stop that hungry rat!” cries Mac.
Ron has the pet for that.
“My cat will do the job,” he cries.



“A cat can
get a rat.”

"Who can clean the ship?" asks Mac.
"Right now it looks a wreck."
"Don't worry, Captain Mac,"
says Ned.

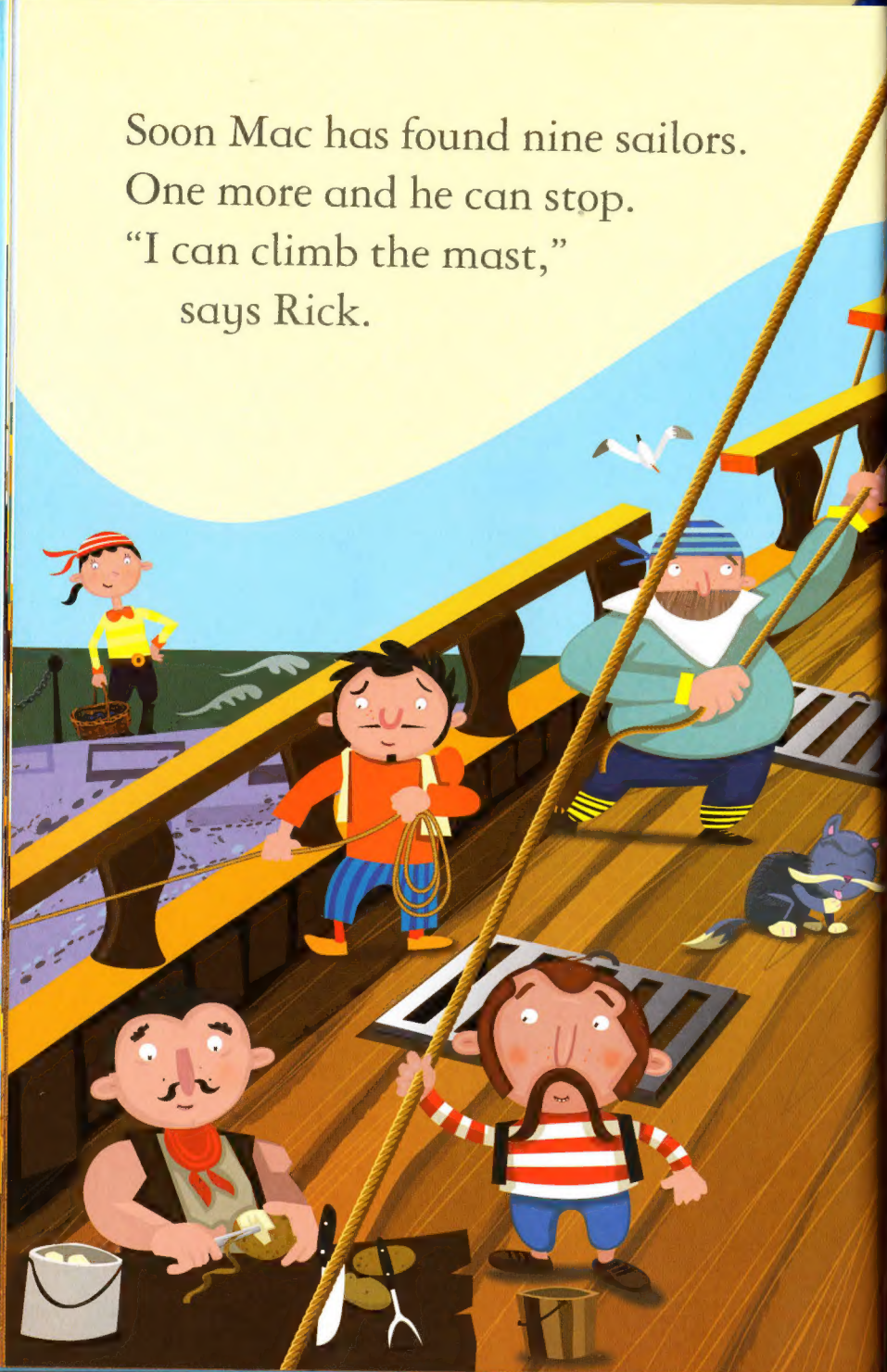


“Who can help us find our way?”
Mac gives his charts a tap.
“I know which one to use,”
says Nat.



I can pick
a map.

Soon Mac has found nine sailors.
One more and he can stop.
"I can climb the mast,"
says Rick.



Can I get
up on top?

Now Rick is feeling dizzy,
He has to come down quick.
A sailor's life is not for him,
he's leaving.



Rick is sick.

A girl runs up. "I'm Pam," she cries.
She's on board with a hop.
"I'd like a job."
"Let's see," says Mac.



Pam, get up
on top!

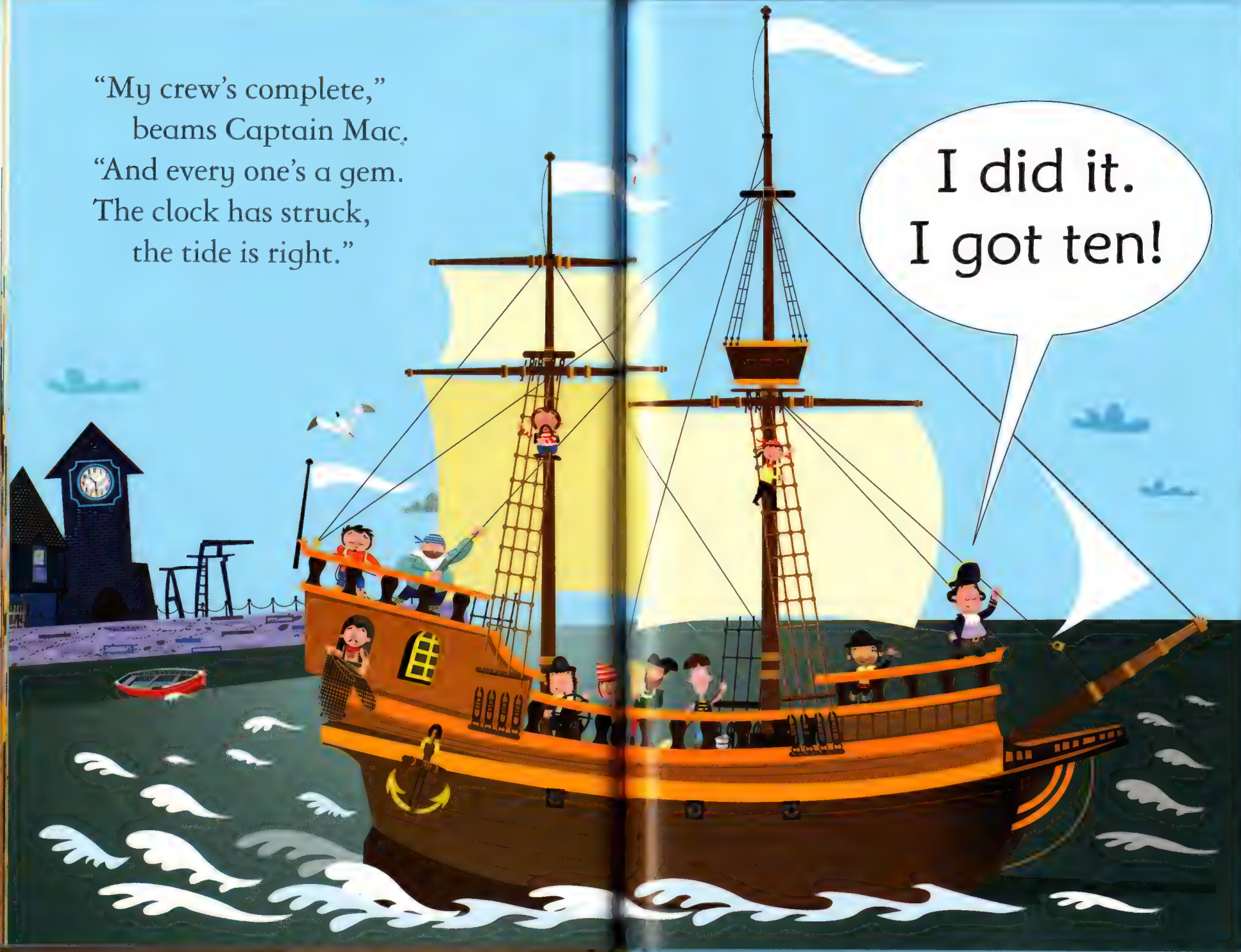
Pam scrambles up the rigging.
“The job is yours,” shouts Mac.
“Get ready for the journey, lass.”



“Run, kid.
Run and pack!”

"My crew's complete,"
beams Captain Mac.
"And every one's a gem.
The clock has struck,
the tide is right."

I did it.
I got ten!



Puzzle 1

Match the speech bubbles to the pictures.

1.

I can mop
a deck.

2.

I can pick
a map.

3.

I can get it
in a net.

4.

A cat can
get a rat.

A



B



C



D



Puzzle 2

Choose the right word to complete the sentence.

1.



Can I get ten

men

den

pen

2.



Rick is

tick

sick

pick

3.



Pam, get up on

mop

pop

top

4.



Run and

rack

pack

sack

Puzzle 3

Look at the pictures, read the sentences, then say whether they are true or false.



1. I can mop.



2. I am sad.



3. I am sick.



4. I am on top.

Answers to puzzles

Puzzle 1

1. I can mop a deck. – C
2. I can pick a map. – D
3. I can get it in a net. – A
4. A cat can get a rat. – B

Puzzle 2

1. Can I get ten men?
2. Rick is sick.
3. Pam, get up on top.
4. Run and pack.

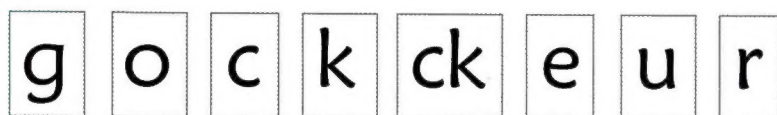
Puzzle 3

1. True
2. False
3. True
4. False

Guidance notes

Usborne Very First Reading is a series of books, specially developed for children who are learning to read. In the early books in the series, you and your child take turns to read, and your child steadily builds the knowledge and confidence to read alone.

The words for your child to read in **Captain Mac** introduce these eight letters or letter-combinations:



(Note that in this story, c, k and ck all have the same sound.) These are often among the first letters that children learn to read at school. Later books in the series gradually introduce more letters, sounds and spelling patterns, while reinforcing the ones your child already knows.

You'll find lots more information about the structure of the series, advice on helping your child with reading, extra practice activities and games on the Very First Reading website,* www.usborne.com/veryfirstreading

*US readers go to www.veryfirstreading.com



Some questions and answers

- **Why do I need to read with my child?**
Sharing stories and taking turns makes reading an enjoyable and fun activity for children. It also helps them to develop confidence and reading stamina, and to take part in an exciting story using very few words.
- **When is a good time to read?**
Choose a time when you are both relaxed, but not too tired, and there are no distractions. Only read for as long as your child wants to – you can always try again another day.
- **What if my child gets stuck?**
Don't simply read the problem word yourself, but prompt your child and try to find the right answer together. Similarly, if your child makes a mistake, go back and look at the word together. Don't forget to give plenty of praise and encouragement.
- **We've finished, now what do we do?**
It's a good idea to read the story several times to give your child more practice and confidence. Then you can try reading **The Dressing-Up Box** at the same level or, when your child is ready, go on to Book 3 in the series.

Edited by Jenny Tyler, Lesley Sims
and Mairi Mackinnon



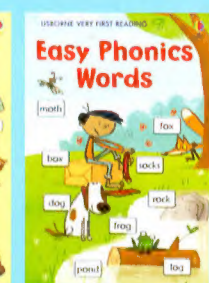
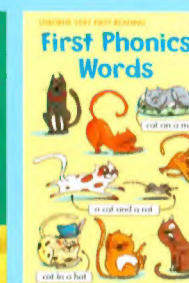
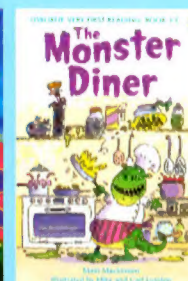
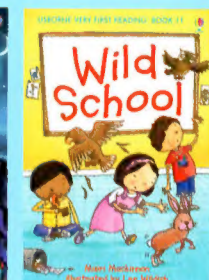
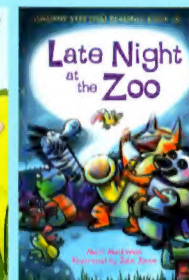
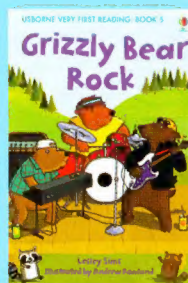
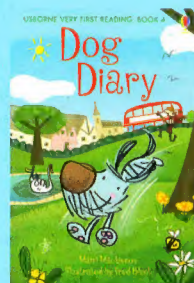
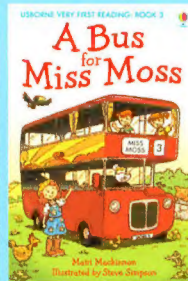
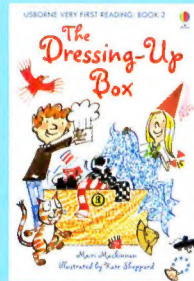
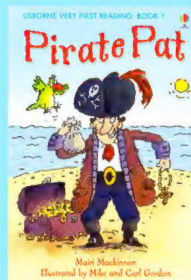
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USBORNE VERY FIRST READING

There are over thirty titles in the Usborne Very First Reading series, which has been specially developed to help children learn to read. Here are some of them.

To find out more about the structure of the series, go to www.usborne.com/veryfirstreading





Captain Mac

Captain Mac is part of the **Usborne Very First Reading** series which has been specially developed to help children learn to read. Each book in the series introduces new letters or reading patterns, and reinforces material from previous books.

Designed for an adult and child to read together, the series combines lively rhyming stories with inspiring illustrations in order to build the skills and confidence that will encourage a lifelong enjoyment of reading.



Find out about all the titles available at
www.usborne.com

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